

REMARKS

Claims 1-11 are all the claims pending in the application. By this Amendment, Applicants cancel claims 12-20.

Applicants filed an Information Disclosure Statement on January 17, 2002. The Examiner is respectfully requested to return the initialed PTO/SB/08 (substitute for PTO-1449) in the next communication from the Office.

Claim 1 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by Hockaday (6,246,144).

Claims 1-20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Hockaday (6,246,144) in view of Takeuchi (5,810,111).

Analysis

Of the pending claims, claim 1 is the only claim in independent form.

Applicants respectfully request the Examiner to reconsider and withdraw the prior art rejection of claim 1 because the combination of cited references fails to teach or suggest a dynamo electric machine according to the present invention that is rotatable in both directions for an electric power steering device.

The present invention reduces the ripples of torque and operating noises in a dynamo-electric machine, particularly one that is rotatable in both direction. The combination of the prior art fails to teach or suggest this feature of having the dynamo electric machine rotatable in both directions, as an electric power steering device.

As noted by the Examiner, Hockaday fails to disclose a motor for electric power steering. This reference also fails to disclose the machine being rotatable in both directions. Although Takeuchi discloses a motor for power steering, there is no teaching or suggestion that it is rotatable in both directions

In the present invention, because all the pigtails extend in radial directions, toward the outside of the brush holder, in a dynamo-electric machine rotatable in both directions, differences of numbers of revolutions of torques, of ripples of the torques, and of operating noises between the directions, can be reduced. See pages 8-9 of the specification.

Thus, even if one were to combine the references, one would fail to be motivated to modify Hockaday to arrive at the claimed invention based on the teachings of Takeuchi.

Thus, claim 1 is patentable.

The remaining rejections are directed to the dependent claims. These claims are patentable for at least the same reasons as claim 1, by virtue of their dependency therefrom.

Conclusion

In view of the above, reconsideration and allowance of this application are now believed to be in order, and such actions are hereby solicited. If any points remain in issue which the Examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephone interview, the Examiner is kindly requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.111
U.S. Appln. No. 09/695,840

Applicant hereby petitions for any extension of time which may be required to maintain the pendency of this case, and any required fee, except for the Issue Fee, for such extension is to be charged to Deposit Account No. 19-4880.

Respectfully submitted,



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Attorney Docket No.: Q61431

APPENDIX

VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE

IN THE CLAIMS:

Claims 12-20 are canceled.

The claims are amended as follows:

1. (Twice Amended) A brush holder for a dynamo-electric machine, wherein a spring and a brush are set in a brush holder base, a pigtail extends from an introducing portion in the brush in a radial direction of the brush holder, and a terminal plate and the pigtail are connected in an area within 90° from the introducing portion toward the radial direction of the brush holder,
wherein the dynamo-electric machine is rotatable in both directions, and
wherein the dynamo-electric machine is a motor for an electric power steering.